The MSC Monitor

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF MAT-SU COLLEGE

Volume 2 Issue 7 P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, Alaska 99645 August 29, 1996

Fall '96 shows new improvements

New Look For Old Buildings

by Amy Menerey

New students may be impressed by the clean crispness of our buildings, while returning students will be delighted to find major improvements to our surroundings. Most of the walls in the Jalmar Kerttula Building (JKB) and the Okeson Library Building (OLB), as well as the Atrium that connects them, have been painted. The carpet in these buildings is also new. During the summer remodeling phase, the lounge chairs were reupholstered, rooms rearranged, upgrades done, and countless other tasks completed by our maintenance and security team. An added bonus is the spacious new location of the bookstore, directly across from the business office. Improvements will continue into the next year.

Mat-Su College Student Government Wins Second Place For Theme In Alaska State Fair Parade

by Shelia Keyser

August 24th was a beautiful day of fun to be had by all, those participating in the 1996 Alaska State Fair Parade and those watching from the streets. The weather even cooperated to provide sun for the event. This year's parade theme was The Diamond Jubilee for the 60th anniversary of the AK State Fair.

The Mat-Su College Student Government entered a float consisting of a horse and hay wagon provided by Tom Edmonds of Rafter T. Ranch with the following riders: "Doc" South on fiddle, Dan South on banjo, student government President Grace Wilson-Laudun, Vice President Mary Pierce, Senator Shelia Keyser and children, Senator Steve Warner, Senator Cheryl Weisenberger, Ann Miller, Brandi Garbarett and Mark Dean.

When all was said and done the judges made their decisions in the following categories:

Overall

1st - Nugen's Ranch

continued on page 2, ***Parade***

Bridge to be completed

by Amy Menerey

The bridge that will connect the Fred and Sara Machetanz (FSM) building with Snodgrass Hall will be tentatively completed by next semester. According to Joseph Emmons, Director of Mat-Su College, the bids have been placed and a contractor has been chosen to complete the long-awaited project. Emmons stated that although the bridge will be serviceable, it will not be complete, with full enclosure and heat, until a later date.

LOOK!!!

This paper was created on the MSC Monitor's new publishing program, Quark XPress. If anyone has any previous Quark experience, please see Amy at the MSC Monitor Office, Room JKB 109. As always, The MSC Monitor would appreciate any input from the students of Mat-Su College. After all, it's YOUR paper!

FROM THE DESK OF... JOSEPH EMMONS Director of Mat-Su College

On behalf of the faculty and staff, I want to welcome you to Matanuska-Susitna College and the 1996-97 academic year. Whether you are a continuing student, new student, part time or full time, we intend to provide to you the best educational experience we can.

Among the improvements we made over the summer were the upgrades to all computers in JKB 116 and the computer labs, in addition to adding more computers to the OMT classrooms and expanding their capabilities through networking. Many buildings sport new carpeting and new coats of paint both inside and outside. Your educational experience is much more than new equipment and pleasant surroundings, of course. Faculty members have been involved in a variety of activities, including sabbaticals, conferences, workshops, and work experiences that enhance the skills they bring to the classroom.

Everything is in place for success. Take advantage of the opportunities available to you. Take the responsibility to make this the most successful and productive year possible.

The MSC Monitor accepts ads from all students, faculty and staff to be published monthly for FREE!!!!

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!!!

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As a student here at Mat-Su College, I would like to suggest to the school that aerobics classes be offered as an elective. We do not have a gym, and the elective classes for physical exercise are usually offered at a different location, therefore limiting those who would like to work out.

Aerobics is essential to the cardiovascular system, helps to lose weight, and is good for getting the blood pumped up. This leads to stressfree, better-thinking minds, which improves one's performance in class, as well as study habits. Using an empty room for these aerobic classes would suffice for the gym we do not have. Please let me know if I can be of assistance if there is great possibility for this to happen.
-Betsy Dirks, AK Job Corps Student

The MSC Monitor welcomes all Letters to the Editor and guest columnists. The editor reserves the right to edit due to length , clarity, grammar, spelling and libel. Please place submissions in the Blue Box outside the MSC Monitor office, or contact Amy Menerey at 745-9759, or PSAJM Hard copy, with disk, saved on Wordperfect 5.1, is encouraged. Please attach name and phone number for verification.

Just as a reminder!!!

Aug. 26 Fall Semester Begins
Sept. 2-3 Labor Day Holiday
10 Add Deadline
10 Audit-to-Credit Deadline
10 Drop Deadline
Oct. 21 Application for Degree Due
29 Directed Study Deadline
29 Independent Study Deadline
Nov. 19 Withdrawal Deadline
19 Credit-to-Audit Deadline
22 Spring 1997 Registration Begins
27-30 Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 9 Total Withdrawal Deadline
14 Last Day of Instruction
18 Grades Due

See Administration and Registration for short session class deadlines.

MSC Monitor Staff

Editor: Amy Menerey
Assistant Editor: Shelia Keyser
Secretary: Michelle McGehee
Guest columnists: Dancing Feather X
Anita Woodruff

Please drop submissions in the Blue Monitor Box, or mail to MSC Monitor, P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, AK 99645. Include name and phone number for verification.

Wanted:

Columnists, Interviewers, Reporters, Cartoonists, Copy Editors, Feature Writers, Guest Columnists, and Poets!
See Amy at the MSC Monitor!

Brown Bag Talks for Fall 1996

12:00 - 12:50pm in FSM 204

September 9 - Using the internet to help with research for college classes. Carl Hereford

October 7 - Stretching your dollar - making it on a student income. Kelly Mahoney

November 11 - Who says you can't spell?? Some tricks to improve your spelling. Elizabeth Fallon

December 9 - Just for fun, make something for the holidays in one hour!!!

Sponsored by the LRC and the MSC English Department

Parade, continued from Front Page

2nd - Palmer Senior Center
3rd - Antique Auto Mushers

Business
1st - Walmart
2nd - Alaska Job Corps
3rd - Family Health Center

Political
1st - Ron Larson
2nd - Republican Party
3rd - Friends of Vic Kohring

Fire Department
1st - Palmer F.D.
2nd- Central Mat-Su F.D.

Family and Children
1st - Boy Scout Troop 54
2nd- Dale Boreson
Monet Lisenburd
3rd - Mat-Towing
State Troopers

Vehicle
1st - Midnight Sun Street Rod Assoc.
2nd - Wasilla Chamber of Commerce
3rd - David Holliday

Colonels and Royalty
1st - Palmer Pioneer Home
2nd - Colony High JROTC
3rd - 40 & 8 Locals 1098, 816

Agriculture
1st - Alaska Farm Bureau
2nd - Lazy Mt. 4H
3rd - Buena Custer

Music and Dance
1st - Alaska Highlanders
2nd - Alaskanettes
3rd - Paws and Taws

Theme
1st - Bahai Faith
2nd - MSC Student Gov..
3rd - Gold Panners 4H

Food, Coffee,& Thoughts

Expressions and the Tsunami Coffee Company are once again open for business in their newly expanded kitchen. They are serving daily specials in addition to their regular menu. Check out their "thought of the day" and the "word of the day".

The Poet's Place

Searching for Myself

by Dancing Feather X

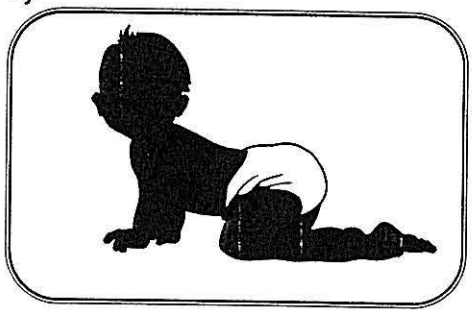
I wander down stream
Searching for myself.
Seeking behind reeds
For fragments of an elf.
A mud bespattered,
And angel hearted
Cozy little girl
Who cannot worry
'Bout getting dirty
And's in no hurry.
She likes the clay
Between her toes,
And wheeling gulls,
And bright rainbows.
She thinks that if she tries,
She is sure that she could fly.
She looks far off
And never feels
The limits of adults.
Her tiny head
Spins and reels
And never feels a doubt.
A painted sky
Of butterscotch,
A cloud of awesome peach,
And she is sure there is no sky
Her straining hands can't reach.
Oh why can't I,
I wish so much
To be like that little girl;
And race the wind,
My hair unfurled
To edges of the world?
If she should cost
A million dollars,
Pay for her, I will.
Never put her in a cage
But follow her until
I'd follow her all about,
And try to learn her ways.
I'd copy her carefree style,
And maybe after a long, long while
I'd rediscover how to smile.

Proud Grandma

by guest columnist, Anita Woodruff

He's the youngest in the room, but don't let that fool you. No, that's not Jon-not tall enough. Jon's nearly two feet high. His eyes are blue-gray, when they're open. They roll a bit, not on purpose, but in answer to his pink-edged ears. You'll find him easily.

No, he isn't bald. The hair is light and fine, rather reddish. The brows and lashes too, are light. Because of this, you can plainly see his round, firm head—good brain cavity.



His cheeks are full and dimpled; unblemished except for self-inflected scratches from ragged nails at the end of long, tapered, but pudgy fingers. If you call him 'Fatso' I'll cry.

He's wearing blue, of course. Look for a tiny nose and rose-bud mouth. There-There he is. He is asleep. So angelic is Jon Brian, nine pounds six ounces: my first grandson and only ten hours old.

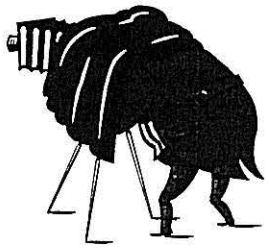
What did you do this summer? Write us and tell us for our next issue - "What I did on summer vacation."

POWER OF THE SEA

by guest columnist, Anita Woodruff

WILD SURF POUNDING FREE
SOOTHES TROUBLE WITHIN MY SOUL;
POWER OF THE SEA.

Are you interested in photography? Have you had Beginning Photography? Would you like to use the new and improved darkroom at Mat-Su College? Learn techniques from fellow photographers?



The MSC Photo Club is a new club for Mat-Su students with an interest in photography and darkroom techniques.
We will be meeting in the lab, across from the library on September 6th at noon.
Call Amy Menerey at 745-9759 for more information.
Lab will be open weekly, dates and times will be posted on the photo lab door.

Student Government

The next student government meetings will be held August 30, at 4:00 p.m., and September 13, in JKB 108. There are many senator seats available, and committees will be forming at this time. You must attend three consecutive meetings to become a senator. You do NOT need to be a member of student government to sit on a committee. Any new clubs must be recognized by student government, and existing clubs must be re-recognized at this time.

Meeting dates and times are posted regularly on the board outside the cafeteria. The agenda and previous minutes are posted on the student government door prior to meetings, for student information.

Computer News

by Amy Menerey

Carl Hereford and the computer technicians have had a busy summer upgrading computer systems throughout the campus.

Classroom JKB 116 has all new equipment which is now on a network, with Windows '95. These computers now require students to log in with the machine number, rather than with a student name.

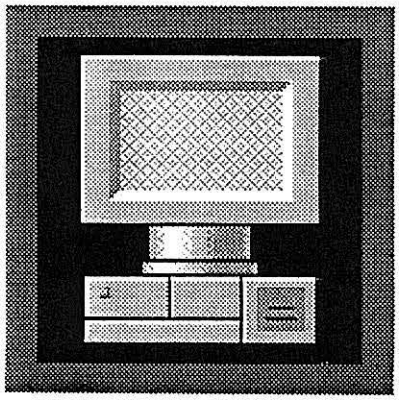
Ten new machines have been added to the OMT lab with Microsoft Office and Windows '95 available.

The IBM Lab, room 15, has four new systems and all decks have been upgraded with new processors and more memory. They are also networked, making it possible for students to work on any of the available programs from any station. There are two laser printers available in this lab.

The Mac Lab is also sporting memory upgrades and a new printer.

New to the VAX Lab is a color scanner and a color printer. Now, for a small fee, students will be able to print their term papers with color graphics. However, be prepared to scan and print your document as a final step, since these graphics take up a tremendous amount of memory. The details regarding cost to students are still being hammered out. See the lab aides for more information as it becomes available.

As a special note from "Carl, the computer guy", PLEASE USE PRINT PREVIEW before printing! Paper waste has become extreme, not to mention the cost of print cartridges. When using the new color printer students will be charged for each copy printed, regardless of failure to preview.



The Hall Monitor

Is is true that enrollment is down at MSC? Could it have anything to do with recent tuition hikes?

Is it true that the faculty is still arguing about desired office locations?

Overheard in the hallways:

"One more year, then it'll be duck soup."

"Ohhh, here we go again."

"Are you still here?!!!"

Is it true that the student government float, which took second place this year, was coordinated and completed in less than one week?

Is it true that the MSC Monitor staff has to run back and forth from one office to another to make phone calls?

"Drugfest '96"

by Amy Menerey

This year I attended my first Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival, which, incidentally, is not in Talkeetna, but 17 miles from "beautiful downtown Talkeetna".

Amid the mud and the confusion I spent my first night searching aimlessly for the "live music". It was difficult to locate it within the festival area due to the many versions of music emanating from the campgrounds. And the lack of signs to point the way didn't help either. (I'm convinced that some of the attendees never even saw a live band the entire time they were there.)

The entertainment value was high nonetheless, since it didn't stop at the heavily controlled festival area. The huge camp/parking areas were filled with a new generation of wannabe Woodstockers wacked out on every drug imaginable. I spent a great deal of time walking for miles, usually in search of friends that were supposed to be there, but often just to see what was happening.

The live bands put on good shows, the food was expensive as usual, and "Karma Kontrol" kept a strict eye on admittance and the festival area itself. The praises of hemp abounded and I found myself breaking down and buying the obligatory tye-died t-shirt and immediately felt at one with the crowd.

I was somewhat disappointed and distracted by the constant pitches for drugs, "acid?", "shrooms?", "acid?", "shrooms?". . . I really got tired of hearing it, especially since I don't personally indulge in any of these items. In a desperate moment I tried to locate someone with a Tums, but to no avail.

All in all, it was a good time, though one I'm not certain to enjoy again. Unless I take up singing the praises of hemp.

Media Board is looking for student members

The Media Board is looking for four student members. The Media Board serves to maintain guidelines for the student newspaper, select qualified applicants for the position of editor and assistant editor, review, amend and approve annual budgets, act as a grievance board, and ensure that the student media is responsive to all elements of the University.

The first meeting of the Media Board will be held September 10, at 4:00 p.m. in the cafeteria, unless otherwise posted. Student members are necessary to ensure that the media is properly serving this campus and the students.